THE PULSE

NEWS OF THE NEW ENGLAND DEACONESS HOSPITAL

VOL. VIII, NO. 19 | BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS | DECEMBER, 1955

TO RETIRE — The Record Room will miss Miss Ella Needham, who is retiring after 32 years of service to the Deaconess Hospital. She holds the distinction of being the hospital's first record librarian and head of the department for many years.

Miss Ella Needham Retires After 32 Years of Deaconess Service aud Associations

Camp secretary in Vermont, secretarial work in the hills of New Hampshire, first record librarian of the Mary Hitchcock Hospital in Hanover, N. H., work with mental patients, first record librarian at the Lynn Hospital and, in 1923, first record librarian of the New England Deaconess Hospital . . . this, in brief, is the varied and rich career of Miss Ella Needham.

Miss Needham retires in January after 32 years of service to and happy association with the Deaconess Hospital.

Over the years, her name has become synonomous with our Record Room, now the Medical Record Department. She has spent a total of 45 years "sorting, recording, installing unit systems and classifying diseases," in her own words, and performing invaluable services to this and other hospitals.

Miss Needham's career began as secretary to Mr. Edward L. Gulick, owner of Camp Aloha in Vermont. Then came a position as secretary to Edgar Hayes Hunter, engineer and architect at Dartmouth College.

When World War I broke out, she joined the administration of the Mary Hitchcock Hospital in Hanover, as the hospital's first record librarian, and this was the beginning of many "firsts" for Miss Needham in this field.

She says, "After four years I left Hanover, N. H., for work with psychiatrists at the Walter E. Fernald School. I recorded mental tests, patient antics and their reactions to institutional life. After a year here I transferred to the Lynn Hospital."

At Lynn, for the second time Miss Needham was "first record librarian" and for the second time, installed a new unit system. After that came a four months' trip to the West Coast, an

(*Continued on page 2*)

FORD FOUNDATION TO MAKE $159,600 GRANT TO NEDH

Grants to Hospitals Are Made to Improve Patient Care

The New England Deaconess Hospital will be the recipient of $159,600 in the unprecedented grants to colleges, hospitals and medical schools totaling one-half billion dollars announced by the Ford Foundation on Dec. 13.

In answer to the question, "What will we do with it," hospital authorities as yet can give no answer. The many needs of the hospital will be studied and then a decision will be made. The foundation specifies that the monies must be used to improve patient care.

No better tribute was paid to the Ford Foundation than that of its friendly competitor, the Rockefeller Foundation. We quote:

"Our privately supported colleges, universities, hospitals and medical schools play a crucial role in our free society. These grants will give them practical support and, at the same time, call the public's attention to their urgent needs."

"We congratulate the trustees of the Ford Foundation for this decision."

United Nations Names Dr. Warren to Committee

A new honor, and added international responsibility, has been accorded the Deaconess' Dr. Shields Warren.

In the words of our correspondent from CRI: "We are indeed thrilled to hear that Dr. Warren has been appointed the United States delegate to a United Nations Committee to gather reports on the effects of atomic radiation on humans."

Dr. Warren's name was submitted to UN Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold by Henry Cabot Lodge, United States delegate to the UN. The committee is a 15-nation one. Announcement of Dr. Warren's appointment was made on December 10.

Serving with Dr. Warren as alternates will be Dr. Austin Moore Brues of Lemont, Illinois, and Merrill Eisenbud, manager of the New York operations office of the Atomic Energy Commission.

THEY'VE 'BEN THINKIN' — The work simplification committee that evolved the hospital's new award system is shown meeting in the conference room with Mrs. Heather Stykolt, training supervisor. Left to right: Frank S. Bettinelli, Mrs. Rose H. Brooks, Mrs. Erminie Smith, Betty L. Shaw, Lois M. Preston, Marjorie Pond (standing), Mrs. Stykolt, Florence M. Higgins, Marilyn McTeague, Nan Mondello and Gene Dwyer.

Have You Met Ben Thinkin? New Suggestion Award System Is Inaugurated at Deaconess

There's a new personality at the Deaconess and his name is Ben Thinkin.

Ben Thinkin is a friendly, engaging fellow who is always scratching his head because he's thinking and thinking — about how to improve working conditions, patient care, public relations or efficiency at the New England Deaconess Hospital.

The Deaconess' new personality is the brainchild of the 10 members of the committee on work simplification that meets on Monday. Out of meetings of this group came the idea to expand and revitalize the suggestion award system as part of the work simplification program.

A major point of the new system is an increase in the possible financial reward for accepted suggestions. Instead of one $5 award, there are now awards of $5, $15, $25 and $50!

Even while Ben Thinkin was assuming his presiding position on a new bulletin board outside the cafeteria, Suggestion Number One appeared in the new suggestion box attached to the bulletin board. (Both Ben Thinkin AND the art work on the suggestion box are by Miss Marjorie R. Pond.)

The person who crashed through with the first suggestion was Miss Esther J. Chappelle, x-ray messenger. During the first four days of the new system, a total of 14 suggestions were hopefully dropped into the box! All of them are being considered by the committee. If you have submitted a suggestion, you will be hearing from the committee.

Anyone but members of the two work simplification groups may participate in the suggestion award system. All you have to do is follow the rules, and be sure to sign your name to your idea.

Complete, detailed rules for the new system have already been distributed throughout the hospital. Here is a capsule reminder of what they are:

Awards of $5 will be made for suggestions that add to the convenience or safety of working conditions; that improve the care or comfort of patients, or that improve public relations.

Awards of $15 will be made for suggestions that will result in a savings in time or money only in a limited area of the hospital or that substantially improve patient care and comfort, the safety and convenience of working conditions or general public relations.

Awards of $25 will be made for suggestions that will bring about a savings in time or money for more than one unit or department of the hospital.

Awards of $50 will be made for suggestions that involve a major improvement; that will bring about a substantial savings or that apply to a wide area of the hospital.

Ben Thinkin lately?

(*Continued from page* 1)

auspicious prelude to her beginnings with the Deaconess the following fall. This was in 1923 and she became OUR first record librarian.

During this period, the National Association of Record Librarians came into being, in 1928, and Miss Needham was a charter member. She helped draw up the by-laws and became the association's first vice-president.

Because of a gradual loss of hearing, she found it expedient to refuse the presidency of the new organization. She decided to concentrate all of her energies on the needs of the Deaconess, and through the years she has done just this, with obvious resulting achievements.

To Miss Needham, her first 18 years here were especially happy ones. She recounts:

"The first 18 years were spent also at Faculty House with 19 girls, mostly nursing personnel and instructresses. This was a very happy era.

"The hospital was small, all the personnel were well acquainted and jolly times were possible in small groups. The furnishings of the house were sparse at that time and everyone worked together to raise money for wallpaper, copies of antiques and small ornaments, to lend a homelike atmosphere to the house."

When the sale of candy patties began in the Record Room, it was a sly project on the part of Faculty House. "Doctors were dragged in to dictate histories and operations and then were tempted by the display of candy. Business was very brisk on some occasions," Miss Needham states.

She adds, too, that the income from the sale of sweets, augmented by bridge parties, completely furnished the two living-rooms of Faculty House!

It would be impossible to paraphrase Miss Needham's own feelings about her associations with the Deaconess. We quote:

"The years have seemed to melt one into the other. I am hardly conscious of their passing. It scarcely seems possible that 32 of them have sped by.

"There have been many changes in the physical set-up of the hospital, and in the personnel. But I am happy to say that the friendly atmosphere which so attracted me on the first day I applied for the position in the Record Room is still prevalent and I hope will always remain a symbol of this particular hospital."

Dr. Bailey, Dr. Graves Are Elected Heads of Medicine and Surgery

Dr. C. Cabell Bailey was elected chairman of the General Medical Staff and Dr. Roger C. Graves, chairman of the General Surgical Staff, at organizational meetings held last month.

Serving with the new chairmen are Dr. James L. Tullis, as vice-chairman of the General Medical Staff, and Dr. Clifford C. Franseen, as vice-chairman of the General Surgical Staff.

Dr. Bailey, who is known to his friends as "Cab," has been secretary to the Deaconess staff for the past several years and will continue in this capacity. For eight years he was associated with the Joslin Clinic.

A graduate of the University of Virginia Medical School in 1937, he is director of the Diabetic Clinic at the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital and clinical associate in medicine at the Harvard Medical School.

Additional professional achievements and duties: Fellow of the American College of Physicians, member of the Society of Clinical Investigation and diplomate of the American Board of Internal Medicine; secretary of the New England Diabetes Association; staff member of the Baptist Hospital and Children's Medical Center; consultant in diabetes at the Newton-Wellesley Hospital, and author of many scientific papers.

Dr. Graves is the hardworking chairman of the special committee for the study of an intern and residency program at the Deaconess.

A graduate of Syracuse University and its College of Medicine, he trained at Peter Bent Brigham and at the Harvard Medical School Surgical Research Laboratory. He was an Arthur Tracy Cabot fellow. He was also an assistant resident in surgery at the New Haven Hospital.

Now clinical professor of urology at Tufts Medical School, Dr. Graves is also consulting urologist to the Carney and Pondville hospitals.

He is a member of the American Urological Association and The American Association of Genitourinary Surgeons; a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons and a member of the American Board of Urology, the Boston Surgical Society and The New England Cancer Society.

The work of Dr. Tullis as director of the Blood Characterization and Preservation Laboratory at Harvard is a pioneer one that has received national attention.

At present he is also vice-president and treasurer of the Sixth International Congress of Hematology, senior consulting hematologist of the Protein Foundation and a member of the Defense Department's Civilian Health and Medical Advisory Council. He has published numerous scientific papers on hematology and serves as consultant to several hospitals.

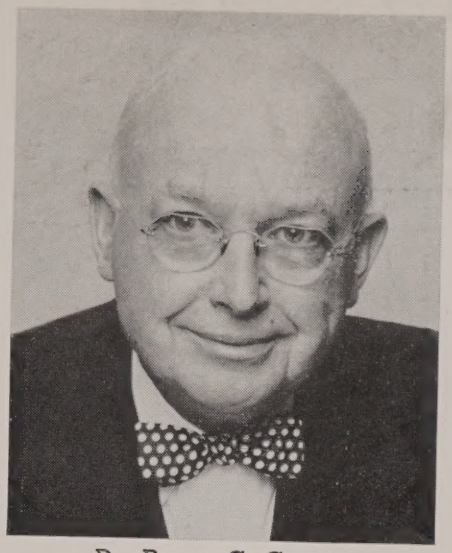
Dr. Tullis is a fellow of the American College of Physicians and a diplomate of the American Board of Internal Medicine.

Dr. Franseen began his medical career with a cum laude M.D. from Harvard in 1930. He is a native of Wisconsin and did his undergraduate work at the University of Wisconsin, continuing his studies there for an M.A.

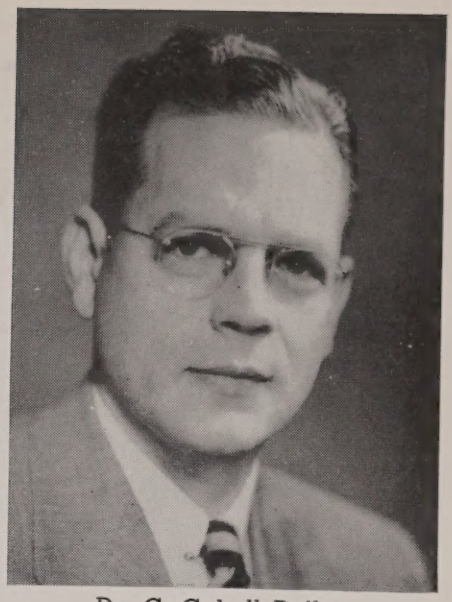
Before joining the surgical staff of the Deaconess, Dr. Franseen held surgical posts at the Huntington Memorial, Boston City and Massachusetts General Hospitals and at the Harvard Medical School.

In 1934 he went to Stockholm, Sweden, on a Harvard Traveling Fellowship. During World War II he served with the Army Medical Corps in the Pacific.

Dr. Franseen is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons, a diplomate of the American Board of Surgery and a member of the Boston Surgical Society and the New England Cancer Society.

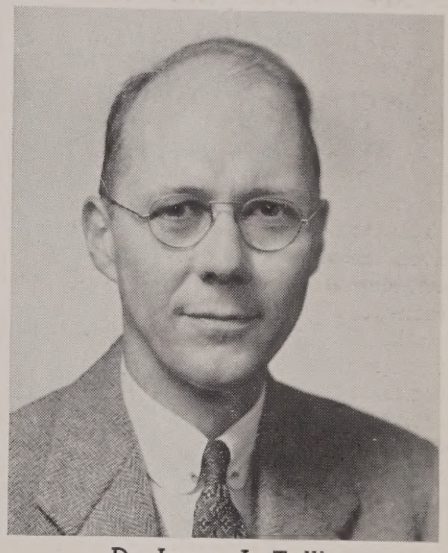


Dr. Roger C. Graves



Dr. C. Cabell Bailey

Dr. Clifford C. Franseen



Dr. James L. Tullis

Nelson Bridgham Honored By Methodist Magazine

F. Nelson Bridgham of Springfield, president of the Strathmore Paper Company and a trustee of the hospital, was honored as Zions Herald Man of the Year at the annual dinner meeting of the Methodist publication in Melrose on Dec. 12.

Lester C. Peabody, vice-president of the corporation, was also honored as an outstanding Methodist churchman.

THE PULSE

DECEMBER, 1955

NEW ENGLAND DEACONESS HOSPITAL

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Above and Beyond the Call

Mrs. Anna May Whidtfeldt, the wife of a patient, writes, "I realize that the welfare of the patient is the main concern of all good hospitals. This I know is as it should be, but your hospital seems to go above and beyond the normal call of duty."

This paragraph from a letter we received recently is typical of the impressions of many of our patients. In addition to the letters that come to the Administrative offices, I know that many of you receive personal letters from former patients expressing their gratitude. All of these letters do not go to Nursing Department personnel. Commendations are received for every department in the hospital.

The "Spirit of the Deaconess" is more than just a phrase — it is a tradition that we must maintain.

Hospitals deal with human suffering and human lives. As a result, few jobs in a hospital are easy. The heavy demands of the past year have increased the pressure on everyone connected with the Deaconess.

We have had an average of over 300 patients awaiting admission. These patients were not scheduled for minor procedures. Most of them had serious medical or surgical problems. Many patients who came to us from other parts of the world had been to other hospitals before they were referred to a member of our excellent medical staff.

Proof that neither the medical staff nor the personnel of the hospital failed them is the fact that over 95 percent of these patients were discharged ' 'Improved."

Nursing Department personnel have the heaviest responsibility to the patient, but they cannot perform their vital services alone. We must have all of the 28 departments in our hospital working closely together if we are to give proper care to those who come to us for help. In no other field of endeavor is the spirit of cooperation between all personnel more important.

Perhaps you or a member of your family were among the 9,355 patients admitted last year. One person in nine can expect to be hospitalized during 1956. When a loved one becomes a patient, you want and expect only the best of care. Every patient who enters our doors, regardless of race, religion or financial ability should receive the same high standard of care.

I cannot adequately express my deep appreciation to each of you for your wonderful cooperation this past year. If you share my pride in being a member of the Deaconess family, the 10,000 patients who will come to us for help during the next twelve months will have reason to echo the oft repeated line in so many of our letters, "Thank you and God bless you in your wonderful work."

Robert D. Lowry

AT THE BAZAAR — This picture speaks for itself — business was booming at the Christmas bazaar and the lobby was transformed into a festive Christmas scene.

Christmas Bazaar Earns Over $1000 For Benefit of School of Nursing

The Christmas Bazaar in the Central Lobby on Dec. 7, sponsored jointly by the Friends of the Deaconess, the School of Nursing and staff nurses, was a huge success and profits promise to climb to a record amount of over $1000.

The lobby was festive with Christmas mobiles and snowflake decorations and even before the bazaar was officially opened, there was a burst of selling activity. Brightly colored Christmas stocks in the Flower and Gift Shop added to the festive appearance of the bazaar.

Many, many people found Christmas presents for someone on their gift lists among the ample stocks on all of the tables. And many others right away enjoyed the delicious cakes, pies and other delicacies offered by the food table. Responsible for organizing the food sale, and for cooking some of the tasty offerings as well, were Mrs. Richard H. Sweet and Mrs. Lewis M. Hurxthal, co-chairmen of the table, and Mrs. Robert W. Appleton and Mrs. G. Arthur Horn.

All the activity ultimately was for the benefit of the School of Nursing, probably for new teaching equipment for the nursing arts classroom.

At the December meeting of the board of the Friends, Mrs. Shields Warren, treasurer, said tentative profits amounted to $975, but that money was still coming in. She predicted that the final results would be over $1000.

Table reports were: Miscellaneous, $281.38; food, $168.83; greens and decorations, $128; children's table, $127.50; candy and grabs, $110.32; household wares, $82.35; gift shop sales, $40, and plants, $9.55.

Congratulations to Miss Dorothy B. Seccomb, bazaar chairman, and everyone who worked so hard to make it a success.

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Engagements

Mary-Elisabeth Davenport, class of '54, to Charles Lawrence Richardson. A June wedding is planned.

Hilary Hyde, class of '58, to Daniel E. Klein, Jr. Mr. Klein is a senior at Union College in Schenectady.

COLOR TELEVISION COMES TO THE DEACONESS

OURSELVES AS OTHERS SAW US — Photos above show scenes on the fifth floor of the Central Building during the televising of surgery and medical programs from the Deaconess to the American Medical Association clinical session at Mechanics Hall Nov. 29 through Dec. 2 (1) Special operating room camera picks up operating site for reproduction on huge screens in Mechanics Hall. (2) Dr. Everett D. Kiefer narrates for operation from across the hall and before a second camera. (3) Viewers are shown at Mechanics Hall. (4) Dr. Howard F. Root submits to make-up for his appearance on diabetes panel, with help of Miss Marilyn McTeague. (5) Shock therapy treatment is demonstrated by Dr. Robert Fleming (right), Dr. Thomas Falcone (left) and Mrs. Muriel R. Bayne. (6) Dr. Samuel F. Marshall performs partial gastrectomy. (7) In control room, Program Director John K. Mackenzie (left) of Smith, Kline and French, sponsors of the programs, introduces doctors to TV audience. Louis W. Crist (right), assistant engineer, keeps in touch with technicians who are working the cameras. (8) Drs. Alexander Marble and Kenneth W. Warren, two members of the special AMA committee for the television, inspect the big OR camera. Third committee member was Dr. C. Cabell Bailey. (9) Technician Sid Sherman keeps a watchful eye on one of four monitoring screens in the control room.

AMA CONVENTION OPENS — Dr. Frank P. Foster, general chairman of the AMA clinical session Nov. 29 to Dec. 2, introduces Dr. Elliott P. Joslin, one of keynote speakers, at opening sessions in Mechanics Hall.

ABOUT THE DEACONESS

Members of the Association of Operating Room Nurses will visit the Deaconess to view operations in progress, the recovery room and central supply on Feb. 2, during their national convention at the Hotel Statler. MISS RUTH PENDLETON is chairman of a committee setting up a hospital clinics program for the convention.

Among the groups who caroled for our patients during the Christmas season were 18 girls from the Garland Junior College and, of course, our own School of Nursing Glee Club, which caroled throughout the hospital on Dec. 20. This Christmas tradition is greatly enjoyed and appreciated.

DR. ELMER E. HINTON has been named head of the medical service of the Cambridge City Hospital.

With regret we report the resignation of MRS. SIGRID GEARY as assistant admitting officer. Mrs. Geary was a recent patient in the hospital.

DR. SHIELDS WARREN and DR. W. EUGENE KNOX were speakers at the 122nd meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Atlanta, Ga., this week. Dr. Warren spoke on "Atomic Energy and Medicine" and Dr. Knox took part in a symposium on microbiology and medical research.

News items from the stork: A baby girl, born Nov. 1, to the Rev. and Mrs. Willis Walker of West Southport, Me., and a baby girl, born Nov. 16, to Mr. and Mrs. Walter Quinn of Canton. Mrs. Walker is a former Deaconess dietitian and Mrs. Quinn, former health coordinator.

A girl, Deborah Lee, born Nov. 9 to Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Burgess, and a boy, James Frederick, born to Mr. and Mrs. Dominic Denaro. Both Mrs. Burgess and Mrs. Denaro are formerly of the Pathology Laboratory.

CHAPLAIN RUDOLPH SAMUELSON discussed his work at the Deaconess at the annual meeting of the New England Evangelistic Association at Tremont Temple on Dec. 9.

A Christmas party was enjoyed by members of the surgical department at Blinstrub's in South Boston on Dec. 9. It was a dinner and dance party.

New Machine Installed For Sending Telegrams

The Deaconess now has direct telegraph service from the hospital to the Boston office of Western Union, thanks to a new machine called a telefax.

As of Dec. 12, all telegrams originating from the hospital must be sent by the machine, located in the telephone switchboard office on Deaconess I.

Telefax sending blanks have been distributed to all departments and nursing stations in the hospital. When you want to send a telegram, fill out a blank and send it to the telephone switchboard room by inter-office envelope.

Incoming telegrams received by the telefax will be delivered by the messenger service.

"Thank You" for Gifts To Red Feather

Employees and staff members of the hospital bettered last year's Red Feather giving this year, even though we were unable to meet our greatly increased quota. Our 1955 goal was $7314.

The final report on the Deaconess drive, from Chairman Milton B. Nelson, is $4127.20, which is $9.20 more than we raised last year.

As everyone probably knows, the 1955 United Community Services drive went over the top this year for the first time in several years. This means the 277 community agencies that depend on all of us for support will be adequately financed during 1956.

On behalf of the Red Feather organization, thanks to all who helped make the victory possible.

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Weddings

Nancy Mary Cotter, who is a technician in the x-ray department, to Linwood A. Pickle on Nov. 19 at St. Joseph's Church in Auburn, Me. The couple will live in Boston.

Barbara Ann Hall, class of '55, to Edmund Anthony Peratta on Nov. 19. Mr. Peratta is a teacher at the Wareham High School.

Ruby Louisa Seagrave, class of '55, to Stuart Smith in November. They will live in Bridgeport, Conn. Mr. Smith is a junior engineer with Remington Arms.

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Bowling Scores

DECEMBER 8, 1955

Team No.		*Points*
7	Mr. Lowry	40
3	Mr. Sabine	33
5	Mr. Osgood	29
1	Miss Pond	28
4	Mr. Emery	28
12	Mr. Adams	22
11	Mr. Mondello	21
6	Mr. Fisher	20
9	Mr. Bettinelli	20
2	Mr. Nelson	17
10	Mr. Millsaps	16
8	Mr. Spalding	14

High Singles December 8

Elena Palmieri	96
Herman Decker	113

High Singles for Year

Rita Greto	115
Hugh McFarland	130

High Three-String Total for the Year

Mary MacRitchie	286
Don Lowry	313

High Average for the Year

Elena Palmieri	82
Marjorie Pond	82
Lois Wickman	82
Don Lowry	94